Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Finance Committee,

## RE: SB1091 SD2 HD1, RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

I write in support of Senate Bill 1091, Senate Draft 2 House Draft 1. This measure allocates emergency funds to the Hawai'i Department of Transportation, for the purposes of mitigating landslide damages and installing rockfall protection on the Pali Highway.

The 2018 Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i affirm that we "recognize the necessity of providing a <u>safe</u>, efficient transportation infrastructure." Human safety but also the present threat to population access both justify this funding. Notably, the Pali Highway is the primary access between the Primary Urban Center (PUC) and the Windward side associated most with the Kailua and Kāne'ohe communities, which had a combined population of 73,214 persons according to the 2010 U.S. Census. Thousands more live in Waimanalo and areas north. As such, the highway normally experiences high, daily traffic volumes, with simultaneous elevated risk of failure and vulnerability. This measure seeks to reduce the Pali Highway's vulnerability given the recent natural disasters that have struck our state routes, including the Pali.

My thanks to Senator Inouye for introducing this measure, and to this Committee. Your work with our public servants at the Department of Transportation is responsive and critical. Thank you for addressing the rockfall and landslide threats on the Pali Highway for human safety and our quality of life.

Respectfully,

DYLAN P. ARMSTRONG, VICE CHAIR

O'AHU COUNTY COMMITTEE, O'AHU COUNTY DEMOCRATS



<u>SB-1091-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/26/2019 5:11:03 PM Testimony for FIN on 3/27/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omanapono Political Action Committee (HPAC)	Support	Yes

Comments:

WE STRONGLY SUPPORT THIS BILL.